



U.S. Department of State  
Bureau of Diplomatic Security  
Office of Foreign Missions



# TAX EXEMPTION CARDS

## NEW U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIPLOMATIC TAX EXEMPTION CARDS

### A New Design/Multiple Security Features/Faster Validation

In June 2011, the U.S. Department of State will begin issuing a newly designed *Diplomatic Tax Exemption Card* to eligible foreign diplomatic and consular missions, and in most cases to their personnel and eligible family members. Such missions and their members use these cards to obtain exemption from sales, occupancy, restaurant, and other similar taxes imposed on either their official or personal purchases in the United States or its territories.

The newly designed cards incorporate state-of-the-art security features as well as other elements intended to assist with the validation of the cardholder's entitlement to tax exemption privileges. The validity of a *Diplomatic Tax Exemption Card* can be verified on-line at <https://ofmapps.state.gov/tecvt/> or by contacting OFM by telephone at (202) 895-3500, x2. Please visit [www.state.gov/ofm/tax/](http://www.state.gov/ofm/tax/) for additional information.

### ► NEW DOS Tax Exemption Cards



Each tax exemption card bears one of the following animal symbols indicating the specific type of tax exemption of the cardholder.

<b>OWL</b>	Cards with this image are intended to be used solely in connection with <b>official</b> purchases; the cardholder/mission is eligible for exemption from sales, occupancy, restaurant/meal, and other similarly imposed taxes without restriction.	<b>BUFFALO</b>	Cards with this image are intended to be used solely in connection with <b>official</b> purchases; the cardholder/mission is subject to some degree of restriction on exemption from sales, occupancy, restaurant/meal, and other similarly imposed taxes. (For example, such cards may read "EXEMPT FROM TAXES IMPOSED ON PURCHASES OVER \$300; NOT VALID AT HOTELS.")
<b>EAGLE</b>	Cards with this image are intended to be used solely in connection with <b>personal</b> purchases; the cardholder is eligible for exemption from sales, occupancy, restaurant/meal, and other similarly imposed taxes without restriction.	<b>DEER</b>	Cards with this image are intended to be used solely in connection with <b>personal</b> purchases; the cardholder is subject to some degree of restriction on exemption from sales, occupancy, restaurant/meal, and other similarly imposed taxes. (For example, such cards may read "EXEMPT FROM TAXES IMPOSED ON PURCHASES OF HOTEL STAYS, RESTAURANT MEALS, AND RENTAL CARS.")